

have anything to do with the policy position. That's how I think it ought to be analyzed.

Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:15 a.m. in the Briefing Room at the White House. During the exchange, a reporter referred to President Jacques Chirac of France, and the President referred to Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin of Russia.

Statement on Signing the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996 *July 5, 1996*

Today I have signed into law S. 1579, the "Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996." This Act will help make Government work better by reducing the burden and cost of Federal audit requirements on State and local governments and nonprofit organizations.

The Single Audit Act of 1984 replaced multiple grant-by-grant audits with a single annual or biennial audit process for State and local governments that receive Federal assistance. S. 1579 builds on and improves upon the 1984 Act in several ways.

First, it will help save millions of dollars by reducing the need for costly audits without reducing essential Federal oversight. The threshold that triggers an audit requirement will be raised from \$25,000 to \$300,000. This preserves audit coverage for 95 percent of Federal assistance.

Second, the bill will reduce the audit burden for well-managed entities. Nonprofits and State and local governments that have put into oper-

ation management controls that assure the proper use of Federal assistance will be subject to less burdensome audit requirements.

Third, S. 1579 will improve the oversight of Federal assistance programs, totaling over \$250 billion annually, by focusing on the programs presenting the greatest financial risks to Government. Placing greater emphasis on program risks will ensure that Federal assistance is being used properly, while also ensuring the most effective use of Federal audit resources.

My Administration was actively involved in the development of this legislation, and strongly supported its passage. I am pleased to sign this important legislation.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON

The White House,
July 5, 1996.

NOTE: S. 1579, approved July 5, was assigned Public Law No. 104-156.

The President's Radio Address *July 6, 1996*

Good morning. This holiday weekend we celebrate America's birthday and the values that hold us together as a community and a country. It's a time for family and fun, for games and fireworks and backyard barbecues. Tonight smoke will curl over homes on nearly every block as millions of families gather around the grill for the most American of meals, hamburgers and hotdogs and barbecued chicken.

Today I want to talk to you about the steps we're taking to make sure the food we cook in backyard barbecues is safe and wholesome.

Our families have every right to expect the food they serve their children is safe. They have every right to expect the world's most bountiful food supply will also be the world's safest. And in fact, our food is very safe.

Nearly a century ago, after muckrakers exposed dirty conditions in meat-packing plants, we made a national commitment to protect the public from unsafe food. It was one of the first ways we came together to meet the challenges of that new industrial age. Last year, we put in place new safety precautions for seafood. And